BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

March 4, 2004

IN RE:)	
PETITION OF VOLUNTEER FIRST SERVICES, INC. FOR A CCN TO PROVIDE COMPETING)	DOCKET NO. 03-00607
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN TENNESSEE)	03-00007

ORDER CONVENING A CONTESTED CASE PROCEEDING, GRANTING INTERVENTION AND APPOINTING A HEARING OFFICER

This matter came before Director Pat Miller, Director Sara Kyle and Director Ron Jones of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority"), the voting panel assigned to this docket, at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on February 9, 2004, for consideration of the *Petition of Volunteer First Services, Inc. for a CCN to Provide Competing Telecommunications Services in Tennessee* ("Petition") filed on November 19, 2003. On January 13, 2004, Citizens Telecommunications Company of Tennessee, LLC ("Citizens") filed a *Petition to Intervene* in this matter.

During the February 9, 2004 Authority Conference, counsel for Volunteer First Services, Inc. ("Volunteer") advised the panel that Volunteer did not oppose Citizens' intervention. The panel voted unanimously to grant intervention to Citizens and appoint the Authority's General Counsel or his designee to act as the Hearing Officer in this matter to make findings of fact and conclusions of law, as necessary, and to render an initial decision on the merits of the *Petition*, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 4-5-301 and 65-2-111 and such other legal authority as may be provided by law.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- 1. A contested case proceeding is convened pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-201.
- 2. Citizens Telecommunications Company of Tennessee, LLC is granted leave to intervene and receive copies of any notices, orders or other documents in this matter.
- 3. The Authority's General Counsel or his designee is appointed Hearing Officer in this matter to make findings of fact and conclusions of law, as necessary, and to render an initial decision on the merits of the *Petition*, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 4-5-301 and 65-2-111 and such other legal authority as may be provided by law.

Pat Miller, Director

Sara Kyle, Director

Ron Jones, Director